

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

October 14, 2021

"The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places."

Issue CI.4

CLASS OF 2023 RINGS IN SENIORITY

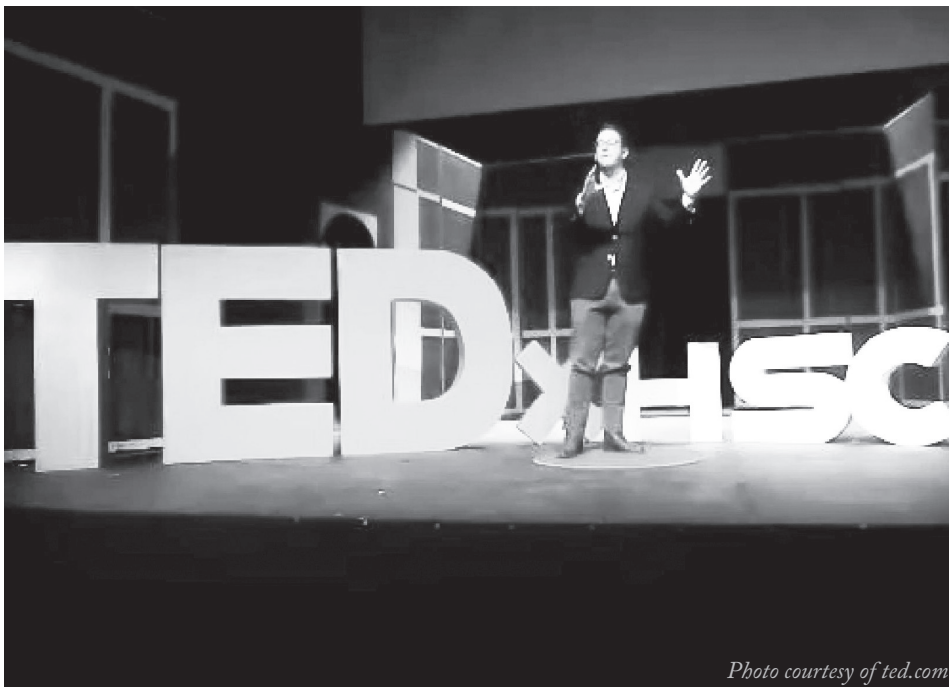
DANIEL MARSDEN '23
GUEST WRITER

On October 1st, the members of the class of 2023 received their rings. They were presented by friends, faculty, parents, and alumni. It was a time of celebration, but it was also a time for reflection. President Stimpert addressed this in a speech to the assembly. He began by pointing out the timeliness of the ceremony. The beginning of junior year is a just past midpoint of a student's time on the Hill. The President called to attention to the quickening passage of time and the "wonderful blur of experiences and comradery" that a Hampden-Sydney man receives. The President then expounded in the ring ceremony that a ring is a symbol of commitment. Specifically, it is a commitment to three principles.

1. Mission. Hampden-Sydney College has had the same mission since we opened our doors in 1775: to form good men and good citizens. President Stimpert highlighted that this is not merely personal virtue integrity but also public virtue. We are called to be good men and good citizens. Monarchy only requires sheep, but republican government demands virtue. I am reminded of the quote attributed to Benjamin Franklin after the constitutional convention: "it's a republic, if you can keep it." The mission of the college is committed in this sentiment, and the ring is a symbol of that commitment.

2. Unique Education. President Stimpert reiterated that the ring is a symbol of the commitment that we have to the special kind of education here at H-SC. It is commitment to character development. All in-

Continue reading on page 2



Michael Armen '22 delivers a talk on art and collateral information.

TEDx COMES TO HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

RICHARD JONES '25
STAFF WRITER

Whether it is the idea of open debate or of close-knit Brotherhood, Hampden-Sydney College has some "ideas worth spreading." After a resounding success with a previous TEDx symposium on campus in May of 2019, Hampden-Sydney planned other talks throughout the next couple of years; however, COVID-19, ever the bane of scheduling, delayed the beginning of these talks. It was only very recently, on October 7 of this year, that Hampden-Sydney was finally able to get these talks off the ground. The talks, organized by McGavacks Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Mike Wolyniak, featured a diverse set of students and faculty, addressing issues great and small and presenting innovative ideas for resolving those issues and

The talks . . . addressed issues great and small, presenting innovative ideas for resolving them and further opening the minds of the audience to alternative points of view.

further opening the minds of the audience to alternative points of view. They ranged from speeches about government, like Patrick Strite's Democracy: An Ideal Unfit for America, to speeches addressing the everyday feelings of man, like Michael Armen's Collateral Information and Art. They ranged

from vast concepts, like Michael Van Citters's "The Enduring Relevance of the Classical World," to specific issues and their solutions, like Daniel Marsden's "Nuna Nalluyuituq (The Land Remembers): Remembering Landscapes through Community-based Remote Sensing in the Alaskan Y-K Delta." They included interesting situations brought about by the troubles of the real world, like Jacob Domikis's "Meet the Venezuelan Dragon Slayers" and advice on how to deal with those real-world troubles, like Taylor McGee's "Scientific Illiteracy: The Silent American Health Crisis." But most of all, they all presented different ways of looking at the world. This list is not comprehensive; there were several other talks given that fit into categories of their own, and all these talks were exceptional in their own right. Not only

in every human being means that no one person will look at an issue in exactly the same way as another. These talks embody some of the core principles upon which Hampden-Sydney College rests, making them an essential part of the Hampden-Sydney experience.

A Rundown on H-SC Sports

CONNOR KITSON '25
STAFF WRITER

After a memorable 2020 to 2021 school year, Hampden-Sydney Tiger Athletics is back into full swing. Currently, Tiger Cross Country, Football, Golf, and Soccer are in play, battling for an ODAC Championship. The Tiger Cross Country team has had three events this fall season. The results are fourth out of fifth, 27th out of 34th, and sixth out of sixth. Although the Tigers have not had an ideal team performance, there has still been something to cheer about, as Freshmen Kade Minton broke the school record for the 8k event with a time

CRs Host GRANT YOUNGKIN FOR TI HAPPY HOUR

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On September 30, the College Republicans brought Grant Youngkin, the son of GOP gubernatorial candidate Glenn Youngkin, to campus for a Happy Hour at the Tiger Inn. Grant Youngkin serves as the Director of Students for Glenn, which is focused on high school and college-aged voters in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The event was well-attended and offered free beer, soda, and coffee to attendees. This is all in line with the generally conservative politics of the H-SC student body. Those who registered to vote or applied for an absentee ballot were offered free campaign merchandise. The Thompson Hos-

pitality staff working in the TI were also given free merchandise as thanks for their work.

Grant Youngkin delivered a short speech, stressing the importance of the election and the need for young voices in politics. He updated the attendees on the state of the race, which is unusually close for the trending-blue Virginia. FiveThirtyEight polling averages have Terry McAuliffe, the former Democratic Governor of Virginia, leading the race with just 2.5 percentage points, a statistical tie. President Joe Biden won Virginia in 2020 by 10 points.

The College Republicans will be hosting a variety of campaign-related events in the com-

Continue reading on page 2

of 23:43.33 minutes. Hampden-Sydney Football has started the season with a two and three start. Coming off a heartbreaking loss against Washington and Lee on Parents Weekend, the Tigers now embark on the second half of their season. However, all eyes are on November 13th, when the Tigers play at Randolph Macon for the 126th anniversary of the game. The Tiger golf team has had two events this fall season. In those events they have finished 19th out of 24, and fifth out of 13. In the most recent event, the Tartan Invitational, the Tigers were led by senior Hunter Martin who tied for seventh individually. With ODAC play begin-

ning October 26th, the Hampden-Sydney Golf Team has a lot to look forward to in the future. The Hampden-Sydney Soccer team has a current record of 4-5-1. Coming off a 2-0 loss against Number One in the Nation Washington and Lee, the Tigers look ahead to future matchups in hope of qualifying for the ODAC Tournament. In the matchup against Washington and Lee, senior goalkeeper and captain Ian Fitzgerald recorded 16 saves to hold off the General's attack. The upcoming Tiger events are: The Roanoke Invitational (Cross Country), Tiger Football at Emory and Henry, Tiger Soccer at Vir-

Continue reading on page 2



Page 2: Re-Enacting Club, Crossword

Page 3: Letters to the Editor

Page 4: Beer, Satire, Bond, Singers

Page 5: Minimum Wage, History, LANY, Christian's Corner

Page 6: Continuations

PAGE TWO

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger
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by J. B. Wall '19

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We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

Feature: Re-Enacting Club
Letter from an American Soldier, Italy 1943

BRANDON HYDE '25
GUEST WRITER

Hello Mama! I'm sorry it's been so long since I last wrote to you but we've been mighty busy dealing with the Germans and their poor "allies". The platoon and I had a most eventful day, starting as they always seem to, at dawn. Nobody slept well; some wet noodle left the flaps open and it was freezing, and that's beside the fact that our logistics was backed up from the constant German bombings so we didn't have sleeping bags. The guys and I agreed that the officers should take the few cots we had. We went out to patrol for a while and watch the sun come up. I remember just how pretty the dew was shimmering in the grass, it reminded me of days gone by back home. We had some biscuits and gravy for breakfast - not as good as old Gammy's recipe but not half bad! We had some time to chat a little while the others were getting up; more importantly, we got time to put on our leggings and the rest of our gear. I shall go on cursing those leggings until the day I die; I cannot seem to ever get them to work. It must have been around Six that morning when we

got into formation for a memorial ceremony. We marched to a field not far from camp and we met with our allies, some British boys, and the Airborne. Our commanding officer talked to us about how we had lost a good officer, one who we had respected quite a bit, so it was a very solemn moment. The company pastor said a few words and a quick prayer and then we started to prepare for the day.

We then gathered up and went back to camp. Our gunner, Jack, got to meet the other machine gunners; my goodness how that boy was smiling ear to ear when he saw that machine gun. It was hard not to smile along with him. One of the older commanders had a couple of us stay behind and he walked us through a few things to review before we went to the field. Things were bad right from the start. The Germans had us pinned behind a hedge, but with the help of those English boys, we managed to outflank them. We held our ground in the woods for a little while and then we got orders to assist with another flanking maneuver for a machine gun nest they had set up. We moved in pairs, low to the ground, through a field of tall grass. My legs were

throbbing, I thought that if a Nazi bullet didn't pick me off then my legs would. Sure enough, we soon made it. A couple of the guys took some hits but with the help of our trusty medic, Luis, we didn't lose a single man. We pushed those Germans hard and overran them, taking five prisoners. We then quickly took defensive positions in a trench nearby at a fork in the road. Sure enough, there was a straggler. He took a few cracks at us but he should have thought twice about trying to ambush Uncle Sam's men. I put a good three shots into him and he fell.

We got a chance to rest for a bit after this. A Jeep came ahead from camp with lunch, Ham sandwiches with some fresh bottles of Coke, and the gentleman who brought us lunch let us keep the caps. We were just getting ready to head down the road, I was getting my kit on after a quick break, when those German's ambushed us. They cut the whole unit down and we only just barely made it away. I got off lucky, only a little injury to the forearm, grazed by some shrapnel. We managed to get away and found a safe spot in the trees behind our lines. The medics saw to our wounds and we went on

our way again. We were getting ready for a final, decisive two-pronged offensive. The first would take us through the woods, the second through a field to where the last of the Germans were entrenched. We moved quickly, linking up with the rest of the troops, and quickly moved into the cover of a little creek. A gunner with a BAR gave us some cover and we dashed for the woods line. The enemy had the high ground and the fighting was intense, so we had to push up through a creek. Up the hill we went, firing relentlessly, casings flying with a thick bed of smoke constantly overhead. I remember my good friend, Ben, was pinned down hard and his gun was jammed. I gave him cover as he got his weapon in order before we finished our advance together, taking out our second German of the day.

We took the hill with little more resistance and we settled in for the final assault, an old farmhouse. It was a tough push, through a field of high grass and brush under constant fire. With the artillery raining down however there was little our foe could do. We overran the farmhouse in five minutes and like that, we had beaten the Germans.

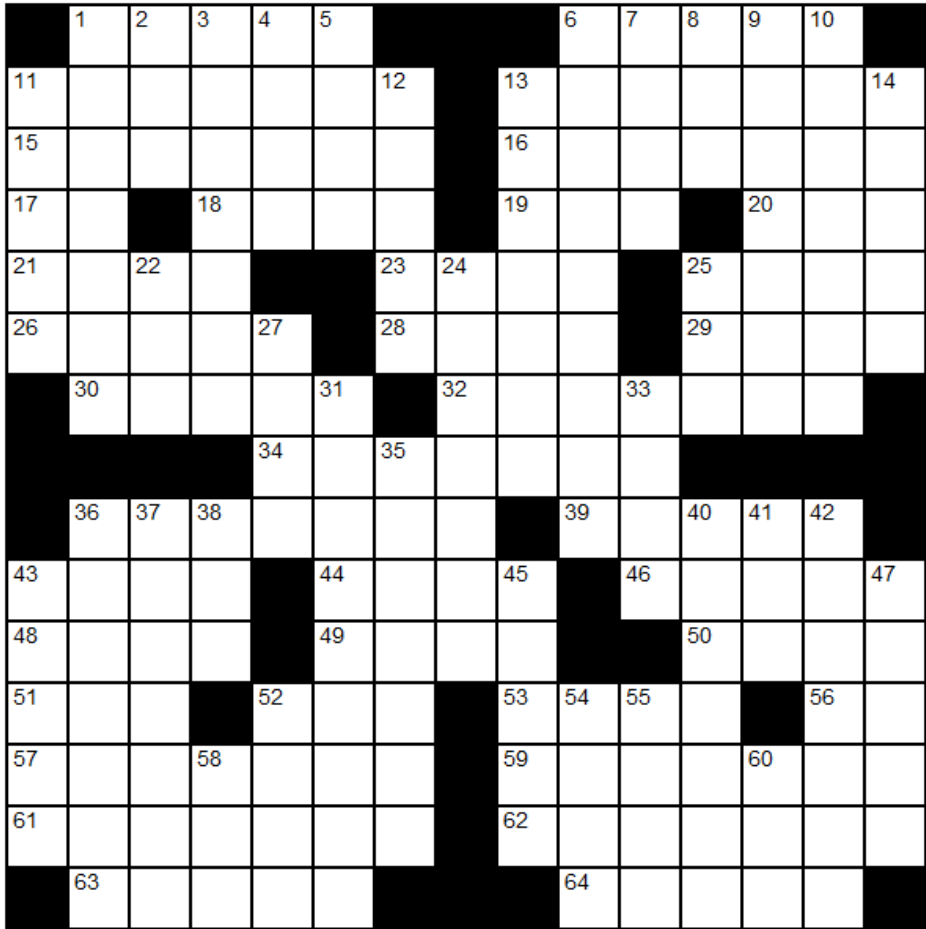
Crossword

JOHN TORIAN '24
CRUCIVERBALIST

Across

- 1. Wine vessels
- 6. UK chips
- 11. Dispense
- 13. Illusory
- 15. Open
- 16. Annoying
- 17. Simile word
- 18. As in "Uncertainty Principle"
- 19. Affirmative vote
- 20. Rare
- 21. Meat and cheese merchant
- 23. Possesses
- 25. Green gem
- 26. Chow down
- 28. "Hold it right there!"
- 29. Like a fine wine
- 30. Tomorrow's problem
- 32. Legal
- 34. Second floor

- 36. "Where is it?"
- 39. Little menace
- 43. Blacken
- 44. Acknowledge
- 46. Borrowed without permission
- 48. Allergy rash
- 49. Friends and neighbors
- 50. Daylight savings unit
- 51. Previously consumed
- 52. Charge
- 53. Iridescent gem
- 56. Mother, briefly
- 57. Craft
- 59. Back of the fireplace
- 61. Absorb
- 62. Object of intolerance?
- 63. Like a chimney sweep
- 64. Not those



Down

- 1. To permit
- 2. The whole shebang
- 3. Albatross, e.g.
- 4. Japanese string instrument
- 5. Quite
- 6. Metamorphosis chamber
- 7. Autumn tool
- 8. ___ and outs
- 9. Stuff stash
- 10. Greased hair
- 11. Twos
- 12. Chuck
- 13. Automatic piano
- 14. Spoke Persian?
- 22. ___-tzu
- 24. Et cetera
- 25. Bite bone
- 27. Tetrad
- 31. Prohibition bar
- 33. Tolkien creatures
- 35. Cold war foe
- 36. What toothpaste does
- 37. Try
- 38. Before, to a poet
- 40. Sportsman
- 41. Bovine speak
- 42. Feathered
- 43. Go after
- 45. Fingerprint
- 47. Expunge
- 52. Imperial distance
- 54. Moss
- 55. Bow
- 58. Homie
- 60. Two

Rings, cont'd

stitutions of higher learning strive to educate their students. Hampden-Sydney seeks to do more. President Stimpert stated "intellect needs to the guardrails of character." Intellect alone has led to many atrocities. The ring is a symbol to the character's unique role in a H-SC education.

3. Brotherhood. In college, lifelong friendships are made. However, more than that, the relationships formed

on the Hill bring out the best in Hampden-Sydney men. This commitment extends past a student's time in class and into the wider world. The president touted our active alumni network as evidence of this fact. Alumni in their 70s and 80s still wear their rings for a reason. It is a commitment to the mission, the unique education of the College, and the Brotherhood that Hampden-Sydney provides.

Youngkin, cont'd

ing weeks, including absentee registration drives, phone-banking nights, and get-out-the-vote literature. Those interested in participating can contact me at nivensd24@hsc.edu

Sports, cont'd

ginia Wesleyan, and the Golf Week Division III Fall Invitational. Winter sports are beginning to get into action as Tiger Swimming begins on October 30th and Tiger basketball on November 5th.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor: Banned Books Week

MS. KATHERINE LYNCH
GUEST COLUMNIST

Challenging censorship and protecting intellectual freedom are core values of librarianship, enshrined in the American Library Association’s (ALA’s) Library Bill of Rights. ALA’s annual celebration of Banned Books Week (BBW) is just one way that libraries draw attention to the harm of censorship. I’ve put together Bortz Library’s BBW displays for the last four years, and each year I enjoy watching our patrons interact with the displays. Articles like “The Irony of Banned Books Week,” written by Mr. Daniel Nivens and published in the last issue of *The Tiger*, help me improve our displays by giving me a better idea of what questions some patrons may have about BBW and what contextual information might add value to the BBW conversation. Since reading Mr. Nivens’ latest op-ed, I see an opportunity to provide additional context to the discussion of banned books. I’d like to briefly discuss the books that the article described as “actually” banned books (but which were not part of our display), as well as address the

article’s critiques of the ALA’s list of “Top 10 Most Challenged books of 2020.” “The Irony of Banned Books Week” focused in part on the fact that several Dr. Seuss books have been pulled from publication in the last year. It’s important to note here that the decision to cease publication of these six children’s books was made by Dr. Seuss Enterprises, the organization that oversees Theodor Seuss Geisel’s estate and holds the rights to these titles. This was not a ban that came from outside challenges to the titles, but an internal decision made by the rights-holders. Many libraries have actually chosen to retain those six titles in their collections, opting to focus on adding more inclusive and diverse content to the collections rather than on censoring existing texts. Dr. Ryan T. Anderson’s book *When Harry Became Sally* was also cited in Mr. Nivens’ article as an example of a book that has “ACTUALLY been banned” this year, but which was missing from our BBW display. It’s true that Amazon decided to ban sales of the book on its platform. Regardless of the content of the book, that decision is deeply troubling. But rather than being ig-

nored by the ALA, this ban was heavily criticized by the National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC), an alliance of 50 non-profit organizations that includes the ALA. To quote the NCAC statement on Amazon’s removal of this title, “Amazon has a first amendment right to sell whatever books it wants. However...Amazon sells more than half of all print books...in the United States. This gives the company an outsized role in shaping opinion and discourse.” As such, Amazon’s decision to stop selling this book “threatens the marketplace of ideas.” The ALA list of top 10 challenged books typically represents challenges to school and library materials, and thus doesn’t include Amazon’s recent ban of this title. But that is not to say that this ban has gone unnoticed or unprotested by librarians. This brings me to a discussion of the ALA’s list of the Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2020, which were featured in Bortz Library’s display this year. These titles were perhaps a little hastily dismissed in Mr. Nivens’ op-ed as books which have not actually been banned and are not “at ANY risk of being removed from the public dis-

course.” However, of the books that appear on the top 10 list, 80% have been banned at some point in time, and all titles have faced numerous challenges. Their reinstatement in libraries and schools is a testament to the activism of both individuals and organizations like the ALA. When a book is challenged, but not outright banned, this isn’t a sign that the threat to intellectual freedom is any less; rather, it’s proof that activism against censorship is both effective and necessary. While last year’s 156 reported challenges may seem like an insignificant number, it’s important to remember that these numbers are based on self-reported challenges. The ALA estimates that the majority of serious challenges go unreported, and up to as many as 5200 challenges could actually take place in schools and libraries each year. Most of the books targeted for censorship are children’s or young adult books, and a clear majority of challenges and bans are directed towards books with diverse content. These trends are reflected in the 2020 list of Top 10 Most Challenged Books.

Continue reading on page 6

Letter to the Editor: You Are Welcome Here

Every day in the Fine Arts Department, you will see piano students practicing, drawing students sketching, and student actors learning lines. You will hear about the history of popular music, the history of art and architecture, and the relationship between law and theatre. You will also see a community of love, inclusivity, support, and respectful challenge. The Fine Arts Department is a place where creativity and intellectual growth happen, in large part due to the supportive environment created by faculty, staff, and students. No matter your faith, your cultural background, your color, your sexual identity, your ability levels, your gender, or anything else, you are welcome. You will be expected to challenge yourself, be creative, grow, and support and respect those around you. We accept you, and

we hold you and ourselves to a high bar in all ways. This is how we create an equitable environment. As we state in our mission, the Fine Arts Department seeks to provide a “creative and intellectual foundation for life-long involvement in the arts.” The Office of Equity and Inclusion’s mission includes the goal of “creating a culture where everyone thrives and realizes their full, authentic selves.” We cannot do the first without the latter. It is when all of us thrive that we reach our highest potential for growth and creativity, and only through that is true community achieved.

The Fine Arts Faculty:

Pam Fox, Chair
Matt Dubroff
Shirley Kagan
Mary Prevo
Emma Steinkraus
Victor Szabo
Helena von Rueden

Dear Readers

DR. CAROLINE EMMONS
GUEST COLUMNIST

Dear Readers, As a founding member of the Intercultural Affairs Committee and its former chair, I would like to comment on the mission and role of the Office of Equity and Inclusion as I perceive it. OEI’s mission statement includes the most famous phrase from the College mission statement: to produce “good men and good citizens in an atmosphere of sound learning.” I believe such an atmosphere can only be created and sustained through respect and tolerance for the diversity of individuals who live, learn, and work within

our community and beyond our gates. As the OEI mission statement asserts, “Insensitivity to any individual or group betrays the spirit of the liberal arts.” I share this view. This does not mean that we must all agree with one another, but it does mean that disagreement should be in the context of civility and a common regard for the humanity and worth of each of us. I am proud of this institution for affirming its commitment to fostering greater tolerance for diverse views and respect for all individuals through the work of the OEI.

Caroline Emmons
Elliott Professor of History

crucial for ensuring that our graduates are ready to engage with world outside our gates. The stated mission of the OEI is to “equip all students to cultivate meaningful and diverse relationships, to support students from minority groups, and to promote a culture of inclusion and respect on campus.” We firmly believe that OEI’s mission operates in direct support of the College’s overall mission “to form good men and good citizens

in an atmosphere of sound learning.” This office’s mission is an open invitation to learn and grow. It is an avowal of the simple truth that we are all better off when we learn from and about people who are different from us. And it is also a declaration that all members of our community deserve to live and learn in a safe and encouraging space. Good citizenship requires more than the desire to say and do

Continue reading on page 6

Letter from the Student Affairs Committee

The faculty members of the Student Affairs Committee believe that the Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) is vital to our campus community and, in response to the letter to the editor written by Professor Emeritus Jim Kidd and published in the last issue of *The Hampden-Sydney Tiger*, we wish to share this belief and make clear our support for this Office and its mission. We cannot comment on personnel matters outside of the purview of this committee. However, we can respond to Dr. Kidd’s targeted attack on the OEI, including the letter’s description of OEI’s mission as “soviet in its orthodoxy” and on its description of OEI’s work as amounting to “suppression of free thought and speech.” As part of their educational mission “to encourage the development of academic, leadership, and cul-

tural identity competencies among members of the Hampden-Sydney community” and to “promote inclusivity and respect for issues pertaining to race, class, religion, gender, and sexual orientation,” OEI coordinates and sponsors programs such as the October 2020 lecture entitled “My Life in Two Genders” that was the original source of Dr. Kidd’s apparent discontent with the office. These types of programs are an important part of this office’s work; they provide members of the H-SC community with the opportunity to learn from their interactions with people from diverse backgrounds, and to increase their understanding of the lives and experiences of others. According to the 2018-2019 Fact Book (the last available on our website), Hampden-Sydney’s enrollment is 86% white,

77% Christian, and 70% Virginian. Further, while our all-male identity can be understood as an important strength, it also means that our students are less likely to encounter perspectives that are represented beyond our campus. As such, failure to bring these perspectives to our community would be a failure of an H-SC education. However, it must be noted that OEI was formed to do much more than simply generate on-campus programming. OEI is also responsible for advocating for and supporting underrepresented students on our campus, for promoting a culture of respect within our community, and for speaking up for students and other community members who are vulnerable to harassment and violence. Pushing back against commentary and interactions that are antithetical

to its mission is part of OEI’s job. Each member of this committee—and most assuredly the members of other faculty committees, as well—knows students who have been subjected to verbal and sometimes physical aggression specifically because of their group membership. Part of OEI’s mission is to stand between these attacks and the students who would otherwise be their targets. When Dr. Kidd attempts to situate OEI as an outside force, acting against the interests of the H-SC community, he is disregarding those H-SC students who worked tirelessly to ensure that this office be established, those H-SC students who actively support and also seek the support of the office in order to continue to thrive on our campus, and those H-SC students who recognize that the work of OEI is

LIFE

Beer of the Week: Falling for Sam Adams

MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It’s fall, and for me that means two, and only two, things. First, that I compulsively step on every acorn that catches my eye while I am walking to class. Second, fall beers, including but not limited to Oktoberfests, at which I will be looking in this issue’s column.

In last issue’s beer of the week column, I said that those who wanted to find an authentic Märzen/Oktoberfest without leaving town might be out of luck. I realized shortly after publication of the last issue, however, that Sam Adams’s Oktoberfest is not the only beer of its style available for purchase in Farmville. In fact, Starr Hill, a brewery in Crozet, VA, and Devil’s

Backbone in Rose-land, VA both have their own seasonal take on the classic style: Festie and O’Fest, respectively.

In celebration of October, I have decided to test the claim that there is no great Märzen in Farmville.

The first obvious difference between the three beers is their difference in strength. Festie clocks in at only 4.8%, and at over a full percentage stronger, O’Fest is 5.9%. The golden mean (or, perhaps, the amber mean) of the three is Oktoberfest, which measures out at 5.3% ABV.

The BJCP (Beer Judge Certification Program) says that a Märzen should be between 5.8% and 6.3%, so with respect to style, the only beer that technically qualifies as an Oktoberfest is O’Fest. This discrepancy

is to be expected, however, since American breweries are not typically subject to the same laws as European breweries, particularly German ones. In fact, EU and German regulations stipulate that *Oktoberfestbi-er* can refer only to beers produced for consumption at the actual Oktoberfest by large breweries in Munich, so what we get as “Oktoberfest” here in the states really corresponds to the broader category of Märzen.

The second obvious difference between the three beers is their color. O’Fest is on the lighter end of the Märzen spectrum, and if someone handed it to me and asked me what it was, I would probably guess that it was a pale ale, or perhaps a blonde, not a Märzen. Festie is a light amber, and Oktoberfest is a

slightly darker amber. I am not in a position to judge how on-style these beers are with respect to color, since neither the bottle nor any of the breweries’ websites lists SRM (Standard Reference Method) values.

O’Fest is easily identifiable as the hoppiest of the three, and it also has a somewhat cidery taste that disqualifies it for “Beer of the Week.” Devil’s Backbone, the company that makes it, also brews a beer

called Munchen on Hops, which it calls a Bavarian IPA, the strange and stylistically confused lovechild of an Oktoberfest and an American IPA; it certainly isn’t a beer that needs to exist. O’Fest itself, though, is neither a good example of an Oktoberfest nor, in my opinion, a very good beer. Style strictures aside, it is simply too sweet and shows an excess of American characteristics, so I rank O’Fest the worst of the three.

Second place goes to Festie, which is better and more on-style than O’Fest but somewhat bland and characterized by a slight tinge of alcoholiness. What caught my eye on Festie’s bottle was the word *toasty*. I didn’t expect to see a beer like Festie being advertised as “toasty,” but I must say that it delivers. Unexciting as it is, it *is* toasty.

By process of elimination, that makes Sam Adams’s Oktoberfest num-

Continue reading on page 6



The Name’s Bond, James Bond: Spoiler Alerts Never Spoil

DANIEL NIVENS '24
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

To those of you who know me, you probably know that I am quite terrible at watching movies. Chances are if you ever ask me “Have you seen this movie?”, the answer is no. So, in an effort to make myself watch some movies, I am writing this column. In every issue of The Tiger, I will be writing a non-spoiler review of an old movie that I had never seen. These movies could be a decade old; they could be five decades old. The moral of the story is that spoiler alerts never spoil.

While I did watch a far older movie these past two weeks to write this review on, I’ve decided to go far, far newer. I figured as far as movies go to break the mold on, Daniel Craig’s last installment as 007 in *No Time to Die* is as good as any. Released on October 8 in the U.S., *No*

Time to Die is Craig’s fifth time playing the iconic spy, the first of which, *Casino Royale*, was released in 2006. I must admit, I have been a huge fan of Craig’s tenure, and I’m more than a little sad to see him go.

The movie starts off a bit slow compared to other Bond movies and certainly doesn’t compare to the iconic *Dia de Los Muertos* opener from the 2015 *Spectre*. However, the opening minutes of this blockbuster do an excellent job showing Craig’s acting ability beyond the charismatic, misogyny that is so characteristic of Bond. The plot immediately establishes a great deal of emotional tension for the movie.

On the topic of the plot, though, it utilizes some classic devices that are overused and a bit old. For the purposes of avoiding any spoilers, I won’t go into more detail. However, the devices

do not detract from the movie in any significant way. They are certainly made up for by the excellent performances of Christoph Waltz (everyone’s favorite Nazi from *Inglourious Basterds*) and Rami Malek (Freddie Mercury from *Bohemian Rhapsody*). Waltz does an excellent job as a repeat performer from *Spectre* and Malek establishes himself as a truly sinister villain in the long history of Bond villains.

In short, *No Time to Die* is an impressive conclusion for the Craig era of 007. The movie doesn’t quite stack up to the best of the best (*Casino Royale* and *Skyfall*), but it kept me on the edge of my seat. I won’t speculate as to who the next Bond will be: I will only note my wish that they continue to transmit Bond into the 21st century as well as Daniel Craig.

No Time to Die earns a solid 91%.



SATIRE: Letter to the Editor Unequal Distribution of Letters on Campus

JEFFREY HUNSAKER '23
STAFF WRITER

I am shocked and appalled at the amount of inequality at Hampden-Sydney. I have been at this college for over two years, and I have received maybe half a dozen letters, the overwhelming majority of which have been from my mother. Recently, I have come to learn of a certain “Editor-in-Chief” who apparently receives countless letters. This cannot stand. The flagrant disregard for epistolary equality is a plague upon this campus. Luckily, I have solution.

Hampden-Sydney College needs to found the OEL, the Office of Equal Letters. The

objective of this novel office would be to ensure that equal amounts of letters are received by all students, instead of some “Editor-in-Chief” hogging them all. No longer shall the top one percent of students enjoy the overwhelming majority of letters.

Some readers may have objections to this office’s agenda. How is the objective of this office practical? The new Dean of Epistolary Equality will certainly not have the time to write letters for all students to match the gluttonous horde received by the “Editor-in-Chief”, so received letters must be redistributed. A new objection arises: surely letters are written with a spe-

cific reader in mind. Of course they are! That is why the OEL will have to open received letters and send the appropriate letters to the appropriate students and fill in the occasional gaps with their own writing.

Now, some legal scholars reading this article may be concerned, isn’t going through oth-er person’s mail a felony? This is not a matter of concern. The government has enforced policies keeping our society from being equal for centuries. We must make a stand against this oppression. We must make a stand against epistolary inequality. We must make a stand against the one percent. We must make a stand against the Editor-in-Chief!

The Piedmont Singers Come to Hampden-Sydney

THADDEUS COBB '25
STAFF WRITER

On October 2, our school was graced with an incredible performance from the Piedmont Singers, a locally directed group. The Piedmont Singers are directed by our very own Hampden-Syd-

ney Chorus director Helena von Rueden. The concert was titled Earth, Fire, Water, Wind, Human. When I interviewed Dr. von Rueden about why the show was named the way it was, she gave the answer simply yet precisely. Earth, fire, water, and wind represent the different

elements of the world coming together as one. Humans make a fifth element, tying the other four together. To me, this was a lovely sentiment for a beautiful concert. This performance was a testament to the skill of the performers,

Continue reading on page 6

OPINION



Getting on the Same Wage:
Minimum Wage and The Problem of Tuition Cost

LUCIO CHAVEZ '22
STAFF WRITER

On May 1, 2021, the minimum wage Virginia increased from \$7.25 (the U.S. federal minimum wage) to \$9.50. In addition, the commonwealth is set to continue to increase the minimum wage to \$11.00 on January 1, 2022, and to \$12.00 on January 1, 2023. While this change in policy will

assist the vast majority of families in Virginia, many student workers across the commonwealth’s colleges and universities, including a vast number of us at Hampden-Sydney, have been exempted from this advantage. Under the current law, the United States provides an exemption, called subminimum wage, which allows certain businesses and organizations to

pay their employees less than the minimum wage. This allows many colleges and universities in states like Virginia, where the minimum wage is higher than that of the federal government, to pay student workers as low as \$7.25. It may be legally acceptable for colleges and universities to pay their student workers a lower wage

Continue reading on page 6

Here Comes that LANY Day Feeling:
A Look at “gg bb xx”

ADAM BRAZIL '24
STAFF WRITER

LANY’s latest album, “gg bb xx,” is one of my favorite albums of 2021. For this review, I’ll start with a brief overview of LANY and a timeline of their recent releases, then I will compare and contrast how this album stacks up to their previous projects, and finally I will highlight the bright spots and “must listens” on “gg bb xx.”

What is LANY? Who is LANY? LANY is an indie-pop band formed in Nashville in 2014. The band has three members: lead singer Paul Jason Klein, guitarist Les Priest, and drummer Jake Goss. LANY is an acronym for “Los Angeles New York,” because the band aims to make music that fits the aesthetic of driving down the California coast or walking through the streets of New York City. They are best known for their heart breaking lyrics, catchy pop synths, and Klein’s soothing vocals.

In October of 2018, LANY released “Malibu Nights,” a spectacular breakup album written solely by Paul Jason Klein in just 45 days. It’s a masterpiece. In 2019, LANY teamed up with pop artist

Lauv on “Mean It.” In October of 2020, the trio released their third studio album, “Mama’s Boy.” In the summer of 2021, they collaborated with country music singer Kelsea Ballerini to create their first radio hit, “I Quit Drinking.” Most recently, LANY dropped an album titled “gg bb xx” on September 3rd, 2021.

“Malibu Nights” was LANY at their very best; Klein was vulnerable, honest, and wore his heart on his sleeve. In just nine songs, Klein takes the listener through a sad and detailed story of his sudden break up with pop star Dua Lipa. “Mama’s Boy” was reflective, nostalgic, and slow. It was a healthy and successful change from their usual style.

The latest album, “gg bb xx” desperately lacks Klein’s signature storytelling and deep cutting lyricism. Instead of telling breakup stories or reminiscing on their pasts, LANY focused on having fun with this album. In fact, Klein told his 731k Instagram followers that he has never had so much fun making an album in his entire life. At first, I was disappointed that LANY didn’t deliver another “Malibu Nights” or “Mama’s Boy.” But once I realized that

“gg bb xx” wasn’t trying to be either of those albums, I started to enjoy it a whole lot more. It is upbeat. It doesn’t cut too deep. It’s an album of summer skies and L.A. vibes.

There are several must-listens on “gg bb xx.” For starters,

“get away” is the best intro the band has ever had. Paul’s falsetto in the chorus makes this song what it is. Next, “up to me” is the epitome of a summer song both in sound and lyric: falling in love, getting drunk, driving

Continue reading on page 6

Historicizing History:
A Tale of Two Blocs

CONNOR COSTA '24
GUEST WRITER

Many people in the modern era believe that because the U.S.S.R. and China were both Communist states that they were allies. While they started out as friends, they eventually fractured and broke away from each other. At first, they signed the Sino Soviet Treaty of Alliance in 1950, which promised money to China to help rebuild after their civil war and to return land taken during the 19th century, such as Manchuria.

For a time, things were going well between the two red powers, but cracks began to form when it came to ideology, specifically how to implement Marxist-Leninist communism. The

U.S.S.R. held the belief that an organized urban and industrial class should form the vanguard that would march toward socialism; on the other hand, Mao felt that an agricultural peasant class should lead the charge. While Stalin was in power, this ideological difference was not detrimental, but things took a turn for the worse when Nikita Khrushchev took power in 1953. He began the process of Destalinization and sought a more peaceful relationship with the U.S. To Mao, this was unacceptable and a stab in the back to worldwide communism. He wished to prepare for an inevitable nuclear conflict which grew so expensive that the Soviets could no longer lend support to China’s nuclear program.

Mao ultimately could not contain his anger and during discussions about a joint naval base along the Chinese coast, he lashed out and claimed that the Soviets were trying to take over the Chinese coast. Tensions further rose when the Soviets tried to get the Chinese to cease their attacks on Taiwan, a warn-

ing that was largely ignored. Ultimately, China stopped only when they saw that they couldn’t win.

The major breaking point was when the Soviet Union offered moral support to the Tibetan Uprising in China, claiming that they did in fact have some legitimate reasons for rebelling. While on the surface it may not seem like that big of a problem, this was a supposed ally making a public statement in support of rebels and was seen as a slap in the face to the Peoples Republic of China. The final straw came in 1962 with the Sino-Indian war.

Here, the Soviet Union chose to provide weapons, money, and technology to India instead of China. Mao immediately broke off diplomatic ties with the Soviets, making the split official. At this point, this was an unprecedented occurrence in the Communist world. Smaller red nations had split, like Yugoslavia and the Soviets, but no one would have predicted the two major communist powers being openly hostile with each other especially with the Cold War still raging on.

Christian’s Corner: Christian Dating

DAVID CREGO '23
COPY EDITOR

Brothers and Sisters of Hampden-Sydney, we are all required to engage in self-reflection, so we can determine if we are living up to the commandments of Jesus—love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself. This self-reflection is necessary for every aspect of our lives and every daily action. Considering the promiscuity associated with college life generally and the alleged sexual assault cases here on campus, I think it prudent to talk about proper Christian dating.

So, I start with a question: what is the purpose of dating? This question appears simple. We date for fun. We date to get to know ourselves. We date for love. But none of these answers is satisfactory. We can have fun through various other means; we can learn about

ourselves without engaging in a romantic relationship with another. Dating for love needs to be properly defined.

I answer simply that the purpose of dating is to find a suitable partner for marriage. Dating outside of this

purpose is extremely dangerous as it promotes immoral sexual behavior and leads to the abuse of women (this last point is evident by the effects of such promiscuity witnessed here on our own campus).

First it would be useful defining what Christians mean by marriage. As always, Jesus says correctly: But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.’ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the



two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. (Mark 10:7-8). Marriage is the conjoining of two persons—man and woman—into one being. It is only an extremely odd person who hates himself more than others, so it is equally

odd to see a married person treat his significant other worse than himself. God creates this union through marriage, for what “God has joined together, let not man put asunder” (Mark 10:9). There is a religious aspect to marriage, and in fact, this religious aspect is necessary for a real marriage. If anyone tries to divorce any religious aspect from marriage, then he is not talking about marriage.

The purpose of marriage is to get your spouse and your children into heaven. Thus, marriage benefits both the man and woman. If the person you are dating does not make you a person more suitable for heaven or if you are not making your partner a person more suitable for heaven, then you should not marry and should stop dating that person. However, just be-

Continue reading on page 6

THE BACK PAGE

Banned Books Letter, cont'd

list of Top 10 Most Challenged Books. Even a single ban carries great significance when it prevents people, especially young people, from having access to information and knowledge. It's crucial for young people to see themselves represented in the media that they con-

sume, and it's equally important for all people to learn from perspectives and voices beyond their own. Retaining books written by and about members of underrepresented populations is vitally important to our well-being. Bortz Library will continue to ob-

serve Banned Books Week as a challenge to censorship and a celebration of our freedom to seek and express ideas. My hope is that these conversations about censorship will continue, so that we can continue to learn and explore these issues together.

Minimum Wage, cont'd

than what they are entitled to in their states. However, this practice impacts students negatively, especially those who come from low-income families.

It is no surprise that the vast majority of students in America cannot fully afford the ris-

ing cost of college tuition. In fact, the Hampden-Sydney website explains that around ninety-five percent of the student body receives some form of financial assistance. While this assistance may sometimes be enough to help alleviate some students from the financial burden of college tuition, scholarships and grants are not always enough to cover the cost of college. Many of these students choose to get on-campus jobs to help cover their remaining tuition.

In addition to tuition, colleges and universities also require students to pay for textbooks, room and board, and other living expenses. If institutions of higher learning are allowed to capitalize on students by increasing the cost of college, is it fair to also permit them to pay them lower wages?

Piedmont, cont'd

and it showcased a musical adaptation of a poem written by our very own Elliott Professor of English and Editor of The Poetry Review Nathaniel Perry.

The show took place during Parents' Weekend, and I had the pleasure to attend it with my parents, who loved the show as much as the rest of the audience. Though the genre was outside of my stepfather's usual musical repertoire, he was nonetheless impressed by the performance and the vast vocal diversity and incredible talent of the performers. Overall, this was a fantastic show and an unforgettable experience. Thank you, Piedmont Singers!

Beer, cont'd

ber one, so here I am, eating my words (fortunately for me, words pair well with German beer styles).

Octoberfest, I'll admit, is better than I gave it credit for, especially when compared side-by-side with other American versions of the beer. That said, I stand by what I said last issue about how the beer feels like an American imitation of a German style. The American brewing tradition shares more with the English tradition than it does with the German tradition, and the caramelly sweetness of Octoberfest smacks of an English Bitter or a malt-heavy English Pale Ale just as much as it is recognizable as a Märzen.

Christian's Corner, cont'd

cause this person does not make you a more suitable person for heaven does not necessarily mean that person is evil or should be shunned. Marriage is unique, and some people just do not get along at such an intimate level, even if they get

along at a platonic level just fine. You could make a person more suitable for heaven through a platonic relationship rather than a romantic one. Serious reflection while dating is thus necessary to ensure that you are making your

partner a more suitable person for heaven, and vice versa.

This type of dating is not easy. It requires serious thought and strength of will to overcome any temptation that comes along. But we as Christians hold ourselves to a high bar and for good reason, too. The young, such as we, usually face the sins of lust. Lust is an easy torrent to surrender oneself too. "Alas, / how many gentle thoughts, how deep a longing, / had led them to the agonizing pass!" (*Inferno*, 5.112-14). When we date, we

aim for something good: love. However, a misguided love brings great ruin. It is a curious thing how Satan turns righteous and holy things into gross perversions. Do not let such temptations lead us to depravity.

Alas, that is but my humble interpretation. Each person is called into a relationship with Christ, and each person is unique. If you have any questions or quarrels with whatever I have said, please, do not hesitate to email me, David Crego, at Cregod23@hsc.edu. God Bless!

LANY, cont'd

ing up the coast, and partying. Halfway through the song, Paul sings, "Have you heard they're playing LANY on the radio?" This is the ultimate 'we made it' moment for the band. Similar to "up to me" is "dancing in the kitchen," which is also innately made for summer. It is likely the best party song they've made, especially if played at full volume.

The next must-listen is "ex i never had." In this song, Paul Jason Klein tells his side of a relationship that he never thought of as more than an innocent fling. It's freeing and empowering yet it feels wrong to make such a good song about it. He sings: "It was never real enough for you to

be mad, so why you out there acting like the ex I never had?"

My favorite song on the album, "somewhere," is a slow and smooth tune about learning to live on your own, leaving your mistakes behind you, and feeling comfortable where you are. The most exciting song, "care less," has me ready to drop my books and move to California as I write this. Klein sings, "Burning down the house, I'm a brand new person, trying to get closer to feeling every day, a little bit less care, a little bit less care" over an electrifying beat.

This album is awesome for what it is. My favorite band, LANY, provided me with 12 more songs to overplay for the next year or so.

Student Affairs Letter, cont'd

whatever we want. It requires responsibility and the recognition that there are appropriate boundaries to speech and behavior. It is not "soviet orthodoxy" to expect members of our community to refrain from using hate speech or dismissing other people's basic humanity. It is not "suppression of free thought and speech" to recognize that de-

humanizing any group of our students or local community will inevitably negatively impact the education we provide. OEI is not inflicted on our campus. OEI—from Dean Hollemon and Ms. Alston, to the faculty and staff who work closely with them, to the students who rely on them—is as much a part of our community-- our "Brotherhood" --

as the many other offices and organizations on campus that support our students' success. The Student Affairs Committee thanks them for their work.

Sincerely,
The Faculty Members of the Student Affairs Committee

Dr. Jennifer Vitale
Ms. Kate Lynch
Dr. Victor Szabo



Join the team.

Write for *The Tiger*.

Contact newspaper@hsc.edu for more information.